

REMARKS

Reconsideration is requested.

Claims 1 to 37 have been canceled, without prejudice. Claims 38 to 56 are pending.

The claims have been amended to correct inadvertent typographical errors.

The claims are submitted to be in condition for allowance, for the reasons noted in the Remarks of Amendment filed July 28, 2003.

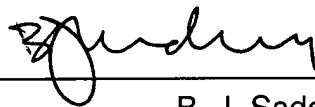
The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned if anything further is required in this regard.

Should the Examiner believe that an interview with the undersigned would facilitate allowance of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____



B. J. Sadoff
Reg. No. 36,663

1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100
BJS:plb